

The Garden Connection

A newsletter for the gardeners at the Waukesha County Rental Gardens



Welcome Gardeners

Welcome all gardeners—new and returning—to the Waukesha County Rental Gardens! My name is Ann Wied and I am the Extension Waukesha County Horticulture Outreach Specialist and Coordinator of the Rental Gardens. If you have a concern regarding the gardens, please let us know. Contact information can be found at the bottom of this page.

About Our Newsletter

The Garden Connections Newsletter is sent out 4-5 times during the growing season. This newsletter is a great way to communicate with all of you at once. In between newsletters, you can find up-to-date information and announcements on our website, <https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/UWEX/HORT/rg/>, or on the bulletin board at the Gardens.

Vegetable Planting Schedule

We have included a vegetable gardening schedule. We hope you find it helpful as you continue to plant and replant your garden (after you harvest your early season vegetables). There are even several vegetables included that you can plant late in the season and still enjoy the harvest before the first frost!



Horticulture Helpline—Gardening Questions???

Do you have a gardening question? We can help! Contact the Waukesha County Extension Horticulture by calling 262-548-7779 or emailing your questions to uwex1@waukeshacounty.gov. This is free resource.

Other Gardening Resources for Gardening Success!

Looking for some science-based gardening resources? Check out our UW-Madison Wisconsin Horticulture website, hort.extension.wisc.edu. It is packed with lots of great gardening information specifically for gardening in Wisconsin. This site also provides information about upcoming free webinars.

Questions/Contact Information

Questions? Concerns? Email Lisa at lboyer@waukeshacounty.gov and/or Ann at ann.wied@wisc.edu. Our office hours are 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday—Friday. You can call Lisa at 262-548-7775. We cannot view missed calls, so please leave a message!

Mulch Pile

Feel free to take mulch from the large pile located to the north of the garden. It is best to use this wood chip mulch for garden paths in and around your garden but not around vegetable plants.



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Bulletin Board Garden Entrance

Please watch the bulletin board at the entrance to the garden for new messages or updates. It is the easiest way for us to get a timely message to the gardeners! If there is something that you feel we need to include in it, please let us know!

No Herbicides Are Allowed to Kill Weeds—No Spraying of Weeds Allowed

Just a reminder, **no herbicides can be used to kill weeds at the garden.** This includes organic and homemade solutions. **You cannot spray weeds to kill them.** Contact us with questions.

Water Tanks & Hoses - We Count on Your Help

Whether you are a new or returning gardener, **please read** the following rules and information regarding the water and tanks. (This information can also be found at www.waukeshacounty.gov/UWEX/HORT/rg/Water/.)



If there is a water problem (leaks/broken connections) at the Gardens and you were unable to help per the instructions below, please call 262-548-7775. If Lisa doesn't answer, always leave a voicemail! If you can, also email both Lisa (lboyer@waukeshacounty.gov) and Ann (ann.wied@wisc.edu).

- Please do not waste water. We are charged for all water used from the hydrant.
- **Sprinkler/soaker hose use is not allowed at the gardens.** There are no exceptions.
- **If you notice any leaks or problems with any tank, hose, tee, or connection, please contact us as soon as possible. Please “flip” the switch** on the tee (turning off the water to the tank, tee, or hose). This can often temporarily solve the leak until it can get fixed.**
Tightening the connection of the tee to the hose or other tee may also solve water leaks. Connections can loosen when removing a hose.
- Floats on water tanks should stop the water from filling once the tanks are full. If the float does not seem to be doing its job and water is overflowing, please “flip” the switch to turn off the water that fills the tank.
- To use a hose at the Gardens, hook your hose to a connection tee (located at all water tanks). To allow water to flow to your hose, “flip” the switch at the connection tee going to your hose. Before you disconnect your hose, “flip” the switch back to turn off water to your hose.
- Please **DO NOT tug on your hose while connected to the tee as the connections can/will break.** After you disconnect your hose, **check to make sure all connections are tight and there are no leaks.** If they are left loose, we often have leaks.
- Be careful not to drag your hose across someone else's garden plot. Use the established paths or the garden plot edge when trying to get your hose to your garden from the water tank.
- Do not leave your hose in the garden path when you are not at the garden. **Hoses must be stored within your garden plot** (not in the path or outside of your garden plot).

** If you do not know what “flip” the switch means, ask another gardener or contact Ann.

Garden Pathways

There are pathways throughout the gardens. Some are larger than others due to plot size and shape. Most of you have a garden path on one or more sides of your garden. **To help control the weeds surrounding your garden plot, we ask that you help weed-whack, mow, or apply mulch to the path.** We appreciate your help. Thank you.

Ann Wied

Horticulture Outreach Specialist
UW Madison Extension, Waukesha County



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